IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
Civil Division

Ilya Braude	*	
	*	
Plaintiff	*	**Case No. ________________**
	*	
v.	*	
	*	
Alla Vilnyanskaya	*	
	*	
Defendant	*	

PLAINTIFF'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF HIS EX PARTE MOTION FOR A PROTECTIVE ORDER

Plaintiff Ilya Braude Plaintiff Ilya Braude, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2(e)(1), files the attached memorandum of law in support of its motion to prevent the disclosure of Plaintiff's address. In support of his claims, Plaintiff avers the following:

Plaintiff and Defendant Alla Vilnyanskaya were involved in a brief romantic relationship in 2009. Beginning in 2011 and continuing through present, Ms. Vilnyanskaya has engaged in a variety of increasingly harassing conduct directed at Mr. Braude and his family members. Mr. Braude reasonably believes that Ms. Vilnyanskaya may attempt to cause harm to him or his family if she were to learn his address. Mr. Braude, therefore, requests that the Court issue a protective order permitting him to file the complaint with his home address redacted.

I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND[1]

[1] The declaration of Mr. Braude supporting this motion is attached as Exhibit A.

Beginning in March 2009, the parties began a romantic relationship. The romantic relationship between the parties continued for approximately eight months and ended in late in 2009. Approximately a year after the conclusion of romantic relationship, Ms. Vilnyanskaya began communicating with Mr. Braude by way of email and social media.

From approximately April 2011 to present, the communications became increasingly harassing. Ms. Vilnyanskaya also began communicating or attempting to communicated with Mr. Braude's family members. These inappropriate communications include sending hundreds of pages of profane and offensive emails to Mr. Braude and his family members through social media and placing harassing telephone calls to Mr. Braude's family members.[2] The communications seek to provoke Mr. Braude into contacting Ms. Vilnyanskaya. Mr. Braude has not communicated with Ms. Vilnyanskaya since approximately 2012.

Apparently frustrated by Mr. Braude's failure to contact her, Ms. Vilnyanskaya's emails have become more extreme. The communications include false allegations that Mr. Braude physically and sexually assaulted Ms. Vilnyanskaya. More recently, Ms. Vilnyanskaya has also contacted Mr. Braude's employers and clients making the same false assertions of sexual assault. Ms. Vilnyanskaya admits to suffering from mental illness and head trauma in her communications.

Mr. Braude moved from Philadelphia to Baltimore, Maryland in 2015. Upon information and belief, Ms. Vilnyanskaya does not know where Mr. Braude and his family currently reside. Mr. Braude believes that if Ms. Vilnyanskaya were to learn where Mr. Braude and his family currently reside that she may attempt to cause harm to them or otherwise disturb the peace.

[2] Plaintiff's counsel has possession of several hundred pages of emails from Ms. Vilnyanskaya and will produce them at the Court's direction.

II. ARGUMENT

The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure do not require the inclusion of a party's address in the complaint. Local Rule 102(2)(a), however, requires a party to include its address in the caption of the complaint. "A local rule must be consistent with--but not duplicate--federal statutes and rules adopted under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2072 and 2075." Fed. R. Civ. P. 83. Rule 5.2 allows the Court to require redaction of information from court documents "for good cause" Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2 (e)(1).

The relationship between the parties lasted less than a year and concluded by the end of 2009. Ms. Vilnyanskaya has continued her increasingly hostile communications for seven years. Ms. Vilnyanskaya's communications with Mr. Braude and his family members are indicative of an individual who is suffering from increasingly severe mental illness. The stream of consciousness style communications are liberally peppered with profanity, threats and false accusations calculated to conscript Mr. Braude into communicating or, ideally, meeting with Ms. Vilnyanskaya. Mr. Braude's refusal to respond to Ms. Vilnyanskaya has further escalated Ms. Vilnayanskaya's attempts to provoke him. These attempts have culminated in her false accusations to Mr. Braude's employers and clients that Mr. Braude physically and sexually assaulted her.

Ms. Vilnyanskaya's behavior demonstrates a willingness to lie and disregard all community standards of decency in order to provoke in person contact with Mr. Braude. There is no bona fide purpose for such contact. Mr. Braude is concerned for his safety and that of his family.

Mr. Braude is requesting the Court permit him to redact his home address from the caption of his complaint. Redaction of the home address will not cause any prejudice to Ms. Vilnyanskaya as she had no bona fide reason to visit Mr. Braude's home.

III. CONCLUSION

Mr. Braude's concern for his safety and the safety of his family justifies his modest request to redact his home address from the caption of the complaint. Mr. Braude requests that the Court grant his motion.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBSON & ROBSON P.C.

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